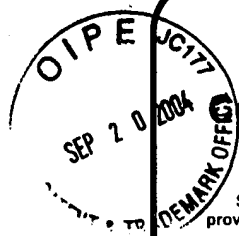


RCE/1758  
JFW



# REQUEST

FOR

## CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

### TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number

09/339,826

Filing Date

June 25, 1999

First Named Inventor

Masuhiko NATSUHARA, et al.

Group Art Unit

1755

Examiner Name

K. Group

Attorney Docket Number

50395-028

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

#### 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Other

#### 2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action of the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.1.03(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

#### 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 500417.

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) \$770.00

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other (additional claims, etc.)

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

#### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Arthur J. Steiner, Esq.	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	26,106
Signature		Date	9/20/04

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name(Print/Type)			
Signature		Date	



Docket No.: 50395-028

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of	:	Customer Number: 20277
	:	
Masuhiko NATSUHARA, et al.	:	Confirmation Number: 3109
	:	
Serial No.: 09/339,826	:	Group Art Unit: 1755
	:	
Filed: June 25, 1999	:	Examiner: Group, Karl E.
	:	
For: CERAMIC BASE MATERIAL	:	

**AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following Amendment and Remarks are submitted pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 in response to the Office Action dated August 2, 2004, together with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) submitted concurrently herewith.